

What is claimed is:

1. A tungsten alloy tool comprising a composition which comprises, in weight %, 3% to 27% rhenium, 0.03% to 3% hafnium, and 0.002% to 0.2% carbon, balance tungsten, said composition being formed into a tool.
2. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 1 wherein said hafnium and said carbon are present in an atomic ratio of about 1 to 1.
3. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 1 further comprising 26% rhenium, 0.28% hafnium, and 0.02% carbon.
4. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 1 further comprising a surface layer comprised of another material disposed thereon.
5. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 4 further wherein said surface layer further comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of: boron carbide, hafnium carbide, titanium carbide, niobium carbide, tantalum carbide, zirconium carbide, boron nitride, hafnium nitride, titanium nitride, niobium nitride, tantalum nitride, zirconium nitride, aluminum oxide, and hafnium oxide.
6. A tungsten alloy tool comprising a substrate formed into a tool, said substrate having thereon an alloy surface layer comprising, in weight %, 3% to 27% rhenium, 0.03% to 3% hafnium, and 0.002% to 0.2% carbon, balance tungsten.
7. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 6 wherein said hafnium and said carbon are present in an atomic ratio of about 1 to 1.
8. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 6 wherein said surface layer further comprises 26% rhenium, 0.28% hafnium, and 0.02% carbon.
9. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 6 further comprising a further surface layer comprised of another material disposed thereon.

10. A tungsten alloy tool in accordance with claim 9 further wherein said further surface layer further comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of: boron carbide, hafnium carbide, titanium carbide, niobium carbide, tantalum carbide, zirconium carbide, boron nitride, hafnium nitride, titanium nitride, niobium nitride, tantalum nitride, zirconium nitride, aluminum oxide, and hafnium oxide.